GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1435
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2008
DEVELOPMENT OF BEE COLONIES
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is providing any Central assistance to the States for the development of bee colonies in the States to enhance honey production;

(b) if so, the details of the assistance provided to the States during the last three years, State-wise alongwith the success achieved therein;

(c) whether any reports of increase in honey production has received during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken to provide incentive to farmers for production of honey?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a)&(b): Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely `Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal` and `National Horticulture Mission` of Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, assistance is being provided to the States, based on action plans for development of bee colonies which help in enhancing productivity of various crops. Besides, an amount of Rs.71.13 lakh has been released to National Bee Board (NBB), a registered Society, for undertaking various programmes involved in promotion of beekeeping in the country. The details of assistance provided to the States during the last three years, State-wise are given in annexure I & II.

(c)&(d): Financial assistance @ 50% of the cost subject to Rs.800/ colony with bee-hive is being provided to the farmers under the said Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely `Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal` and `National Horticulture Mission` for development of bee colonies. In addition, National Bee Board has undertaken various awareness programmes for promotion of Bee keeping in the country. The details are given in annexure-III & IV.
Based on the reports received from National Bee Board, there has been an increase in production of honey during the last three years. The estimated honey production in the country is around 52,000 MTs. The State-wise honey production is as below:

State	Production (MT)
Andhra Pradesh	1,000
Bihar	4,500
Haryana	2,500
Himachal Pradesh	3,000
Jammu & Kashmir	1,500
Karnataka	1,000
Kerala	1,500
Madhya Pradesh	500
Maharashtra	500
Orissa	500
Punjab	10,000
Rajasthan	1,000
Tamil Nadu	1,200
Uttar Pradesh	9,000
West Bengal	11,000
Jharkhand	1,000
Uttaranchal	1,500
Others	800
Total	52,000